

replenished : you shall never want while I have any money in my possession."

Frank's eyes thanked him, before words could find a passage, so much was his heart melted by his brother's generous behaviour. When he recovered the powers of articulation, he poured out liberally his grateful effusions, and then proceeded in the following terms : You have acted, my dear Brother, agreeable to my expectations, but I cannot think of your robbing your own family to support mine. I am not yet, thank heaven, quite driven to indigence : I cannot live as I have done, but I can make a shift to subsist ; and nothing but the sight of those united to me by the strongest ties, absolutely in want of the necessaries of life, will prevail on me to take a farthing from your generous hand. I shall not be able to see *them* look up to me for their daily food—look up to me in *vain*.

He could say no more, nor could John immediately make reply to a speech which pierced his soul.—When he was in a condition to answer it, he renewed his offers with additional persuasions, but to no purpose : his amiable, unfortunate brother left him, resolved to support himself without his kind assistance to the last extremity.

Soon after this affecting interview, Mrs. Frances Penning, a woman in every shape deserving of her husband's true regard for her,

was

was seized with a fever ; that fever followed by the small pox : it was of short fort, and she died in a very short time. Her two daughters, two very fine girls, having the same distemper, did not long survive.

These blows swiftly succeeded each other, almost bereaved the inconsolable the doating father, of his senses ; but a son remaining : a son who was a pleasing companion to him, being a boy, doubly so, as he appeared not to have any bad propensities. By Harry's father, to console him, joined to those of his and his family, the intellects of which were preserved ; the wounds which he had received were irremediable.

In a few months after the above-melancholy events, Mr. John Penning received a very warm invitation from an intimate friend of his in London, in the same way to come and settle with him, and he, without any hesitation, accepted of it. As he had determined to become an assiduous friend to his friend Williams, he intreated that he would also accompany him. In regard to Harry, added he, I shall leave, take him entirely under my care, and if you will occupy apartment in my house, every thing shall be done to the remainder of your days comfortable.

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